

Project MAX: Statewide Parent Network

Leading change, fostering high expectations, and presuming competence

MAX Statewide Parent Network Newsletter

Summer 2016

Project MAX is an initiative to increase opportunities for students with the most complex instructional needs to learn the same subjects as their classmates without disabilities.



MAX Statewide Parent Network Gatherings

Statewide Parent Network Gatherings were held in the Philadelphia and Pittsburgh regions. Gathering participants discussed the principles of Project MAX, and parent team members provided Gathering participants a glimpse into how the project is being implemented. Parents left with a commitment to teaching others about Project MAX and the preparedness to seek changes not only for their child, but for all children. Presuming competence, setting high expectations and collaboration are essential components of ensuring *all* children have access to the general education curriculum.

Parent Voices

I was okay thinking that my son could be happy, that he could have a good life. Now I see him growing and progressing and I realize that Project MAX is not just a bonus, it is a game changer that is helping our family dream bigger with Mika.

—Heather

My only wish is for you to see my child the way I see her. She is a beautiful mind. If you would open your eyes and look closer and truly get to know her, you would understand why I advocate for her. But first you must recognize she is an extraordinary person looking to be understood.

—Raphina Morton

Spanish Trainings

The Spanish training series was launched at St. Patrick Church in Norristown. The principles of Presuming Competence were discussed among parent attendees during the month of March. *Access to General Curriculum across Settings* was presented on the first week on June. A continuation of courses will be offered beginning September 2016. Future training locations will be announced.

Upcoming Trainings

A series of trainings addressing topics such as presuming competence, access to general education curriculum, and maximizing communication and learning are available. The trainings offer parents ways to continue developing effective skills when working with school teams as well as exploring how families can lead change. These trainings will be offered within the Statewide Parent Network online as well as in person. Bring a friend! Visit <http://www.pattan.net/category/Educational%20Initiatives/Project%20MAX> for more information.

We would like to hear from you!

Are you interested in sharing a success or a story regarding your family's experience with Project MAX? If you or someone you know like to learn more about how to connect with other parents or to sign up for this newsletter, please contact: parentnetwork@pattan.net or 1-800-441-3215; HUNE (Spanish & English) 215-425-6203 or PEAL Center 1-866-950-1040 (voice) 412-281-4409 (TTY), La línea de asistencia del Proyecto MAX 215-595-5866.



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